

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks. Claims 27-29, 34-40 and 45-52 are in the application. Claims 27 and 40 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

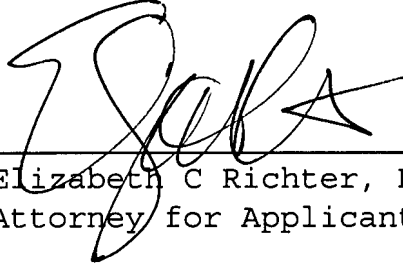
Applicants have amended claims 27 and 40 to specify that the operating states are selected from the group consisting of welding current, temperature, wire feed, end of welding wire, motor overcurrent, data relating to protective gas, visually detected data displaying the welding process or welding result, and control information. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification in the paragraph spanning pages 1 and 2, and page 9, last paragraph, page 10, last paragraph, and page 11, last paragraph.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 27-29, 34-40 and 45-52 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Dodge et al. Applicants respectfully traverse.

In addition to the arguments presented in the response to the Final Office Action, Applicant submits that newly amended claims 27 and 40 to specify that the operating states that are monitored are selected from the group consisting of welding current, temperature, wire feed, end of welding wire, motor overcurrent, data relating to protective gas, visually detected data displaying the welding process or welding result, and control information. Methods for detecting such operating states are not taught or suggested by Dodge.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 27, 34-40 and 45-52 as amended are patentable over the cited reference. Early allowance of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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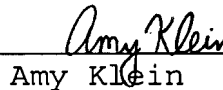
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Enclosures:

RCE Transmittal (in dup.)
Check in the amount of \$810.00
Copy of Petition for two-month Extension of Time

EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EM 084 303 811 US
Date of Deposit: October 23, 2007

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Amy Klein